



# NEWS RELEASE

Office of the  
United States Attorney  
for the  
District of Nebraska  
**Deborah R. Gilg**

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October 22, 2009

United States Attorney Deborah R. Gilg, Acting Omaha Police Chief Alex Hayes, and Mickey Leadingham, Omaha's Resident Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, announce the following information for the attention of the media:

**Event Triggering this Release:** For having been a Felon in Possession of a Firearm on October 25, 2008, James Anthony Howard was sentenced by the Honorable Lyle E. Strom, Senior United States District Judge, to serve 10 years in prison, which will be followed by a 5 year term of Supervised Release, and to pay a \$100 Special Assessment.

On October 25, 2008, Omaha Police were conducting a "high risk patrol" in the area of 48<sup>th</sup> and Boyd. They saw three men standing in a parking lot on the north side of a house, which was clearly marked with a "No Loitering" sign. Police recognized Howard, who was dressed in a red coat and hat. Howard had his right hand in his right coat pocket. The officers exited the cruiser and approached the three. From Howard's right coat pocket, police recovered a loaded 9mm pistol. Howard has multiple prior felony convictions in both Douglas and Sarpy Counties.

**Name of Defendant:** James Anthony Howard

**AKA:** Pops

**Age:** 53

**City of Residence:** Omaha

**Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty** (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty): Felon in Possession of a Firearm carries not more than 10 years in prison, not more than a \$250,000 fine, not more than 3 yrs term of Supervised Release, and a \$100 Special Assessment.

**Specific Location of Alleged Crime:** 48<sup>th</sup> and Boyd

**Location of Arrest:** 48<sup>th</sup> and Boyd

**Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug:** n/a

**Others Charged in Same Scheme:** n/a

**Relevant Dates:**

**Date of Alleged Crime:** October 25, 2008

**Federal Arrest Date:** December 19, 2008

**Date Complaint Issued:** n/a

**Indictment Returned Date:** December 17, 2008

**Initial Appearance Date:** December 23, 2008

**Plea Date(s):** July 29, 2009

**Sentencing Date:** October 21, 2009

**Next Court Hearing Type and Date:** n/a

**Assigned Magistrate Judge:** Hon. Thomas Thalken

**Held without Bond:** Yes

**In Continuous Custody Since:** October 25, 2008

**Assigned District Court Judge:** Hon. Lyle E. Strom

**Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release:** MDW